and what type of shells will be manufactured in the factory;

(b) what is the estimated cost of this factory and how much amount has been spent so far;

(c) whether Government have plan to establish more ordnance factories in the country; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b). The Ordnance Factory Project at Bolangir, Orissa is expected to be completed in 4 years from issue of project sanction. It would not be in the public interest to disclose the type of shells proposed to be manufactured (filled) in the factory and the cost of the project. An expenditure of about Rs. 37 crores has been incurred so far against the "go-head sanction" issued for undertaking certain preliminary works of an urgent nature requiring long lead-time.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Government are considering the necessity for establishing more ordnance factories, but no final decision has yet been taken.

USA technology for night vision in aircrafts

409. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proopse to acquire from the U.S.A. the technology for the Ring Laser Giro equipment used for night vision in aircrafts; and

(b) what is the comparative performance of this equipment vis-a-vis the one already under manufacture in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The U.S. Government has recently agreed to release the Ring Laser Gyro equipment for the LCA programme. This equipment contains State-of-Art technology in navigation for combat aircraft. It is not used for night vision purposes.

(b) The Ring Laser Gyro is superior to conventional inertial navigation systems from a number of considerations. It is not in the public interest to disclose information about its comparative performance.

Chinese updated aircraft for Pakistan

410. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that China has embarked upon a new programme of exporting its 'updated' aircraft to Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government maintains a constant watch on the acquisition of military equipment by neighbouring countries that have a bearing on our security. Pakistan's proposed acquisition of new fighter aircraft has been taken into account in planning our defence measures.

Import of large computers

411. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to permit import of large computers;

(b) if so, the details of the decision taken;

(c) whether ECIL has the capacity to produce these computers; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what are the reasons for permitting the imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRO-